THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Though, there is no change in India's ranking in the UNDP's Human Development Index, 2009 (based on data up to 2007) as compared to previous year's ranking, however, there has been a consistent improvement in the HDI value from 0.427 in 1980 to 0.612 in 2007.

Special grant to Madhya Pradesh Government

†1605. MISS ANUSUIYA UIKEY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Madhya Pradesh Government has made a demand of special grant to bring the State in the category of leading State from the category of backward States;

(b) if so, the action being considered by Government in this regard; and

(c) whether any time limit has been fixed to sanctioned the grant?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) Planning Commission has not received any request from Government of Madhya Pradesh for special grant to bring the State in the category of leading State from the category of backward States.

(b) and (c) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

Food security scheme

1606. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY:

SHRI NANDAMURI HARIKRISHNA:

SHRI PENUMALLI MADHU:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as per the latest National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) 2004-05, the BPL families are estimated to be 301.7 million which is 27.5 per cent of the total population which came down from 320 million i.e. 36 per cent of corresponding figure of 1993-94 thus the number of BPL people came down by 18.3 million or 8.5 per cent;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that at the recent meeting held with States, the States have given a figure of 8 million of BPL people; and

(c) if so, in what manner Government will reconcile both the figures and implement the Food Security Scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) The Uniform Recall Period (URP) consumption distribution data of the 61st Round of National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO) yields 301.7 million persons are living below the poverty line, which is 27.5 per cent of population of the country as a whole in 2004-05 as against the poverty ratio of 36% in 1993-94.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) and (c) The Department of Food and Public Distribution had convened a meeting of State Secretaries of Department of Food and Civil Supplies on 7th August, 2009 followed by meeting with State Ministers for Food and Civil Supplies on 17.08.2009 to discuss various issues related to production and procurement of foodgrains in view of the deficient rainfall during 2009. Various issues relating to the proposed National Food Security Act were discussed including the issue that some of the State Governments have indicated that the numbers of below poverty line families in their respective States are higher than the accepted number of BPL families for allocation under Targeted Public Distribution System.

Constitution of National Social Security Board

†1607. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:

SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is going to constitute " National Social Security Board" for successful operation of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Scheme, National Health Insurance Scheme, Old Age Pension Scheme, Swarna Jayanti Rojgar Yojana and Aam Admi Bima Yojana running under the social security;

(b) whether Government is aware of the irregularities prevailing in the implementation of these schemes; and

(c) the amount spent on social security schemes per year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) The Government has constituted a National Social Security Board headed by the Union Minister of Labour and Employment under the Unorganized Sector Workers' Social Security Act, 2008.The functions of the Board, include, *inter-alia*;

i) recommend to the Central Government suitable schemes for different sections of unorganized workers;

ii) advice the Central Government on such matters arising out of the administration of this Act and

iii) monitor such social welfare schemes for unorganized workers as are administered by the Central Government.

(b) Whenever irregularities in the administration of the above mentioned schemes are brought to the notice of the Government, appropriate action is taken.

(c) The expenditure on the schemes in the year 2008-09 are as follows:

		(Rs Crores)
1.	National Rural Employment Guarantee Act	27137.88
2.	National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP)	3860.08
3.	Swarnajayanti Gram SwarojgarYojana (SGSY)	2290.14

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.